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(54) Title: MODIFIED SHINE-DALGARNO SEQUENCES AND METHODS OF USE THEREOF

Shine Dalgarno Sequences

SEQ ID NO:2

SEQ ID NO:17

ATTATAAAGGAAAAATTA ATTA<mark>A</mark>A<mark>G</mark>AGGA<mark>G</mark>AAATTA

(57) Abstract: Novel Shine-Dalgarno (ribosome binding site) sequences, vectors containing such sequences, and host cells transformed with these vectors are provided. Methods of use of such sequences, vectors, and host cells for the efficient production of proteins and fragments thereof in prokaryotic systems are also provided. In particular embodiments of the invention, compounds and methods for high efficiency production of soluble protein in prokaryotic systems are provided.



MODIFIED SHINE-DALGARNO SEQUENCES AND METHODS OF USE THEREOF

Field of the Invention

[0001] The present invention relates to novel Shine-Dalgarno (ribosome binding site) sequences, vectors containing such sequences, and host cells transformed with these vectors. The present invention also relates to methods of use of such sequences, vectors, and host cells for the efficient production of proteins and fragments thereof in prokaryotic systems, and in one aspect of the invention, provides for high efficiency production of soluble protein in prokaryotic systems.

Background of the Invention

[0002] The level of production of a protein in a host cell is determined by three major factors: the number of copies of its structural gene within the cell, the efficiency with which the structural gene copies are transcribed and the efficiency with which the resulting messenger RNA ("mRNA") is translated. The transcription and translation efficiencies are, in turn, dependent on nucleotide sequences that are normally situated ahead of the desired structural genes or the translated sequence. These nucleotide sequences, also known as expression control sequences, define, *inter alia*, the locations at which RNA polymerase binds (the promoter sequence to initiate transcription; *see also* EMBO J. 5:2995-3000 (1986)) and at which ribosomes bind and interact with the mRNA (the product of transcription) to initiate translation.

[0003] In most prokaryotes, the purine-rich ribosome binding site known as the Shine-Dalgarno (S-D) sequence assists with the binding and positioning of the 30S ribosome component relative to the start codon on the mRNA through interaction with a pyrimidine-rich region of the 16S ribosomal RNA. See, e.g., Shine & Dalgarno, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 71:1342-46 (1976). The S-D sequence is located on the mRNA downstream from the start of transcription and upstream from the start of translation, typically from 4-14 nucleotides upstream of the start codon, and more typically from 8-10 nucleotides upstream of the start codon. Because of the role of the S-D sequence in translation, there is a direct relationship between the efficiency of translation and the efficiency (or strength) of the S-D sequence.

Not all S-D sequences have the same efficiency, however. Accordingly, prior [0004] attempts have been made to increase the efficiency of ribosomal binding, positioning, and translation by, inter alia, changing the distance between the S-D sequence and the start codon, changing the composition of the space between the S-D sequence and the start codon, modifying an existing S-D sequence, using a heterologous S-D sequence, and manipulating of the secondary structure of mRNA during the initiation of translation. Despite these changes, however, success in increasing of protein expression efficiency in prokaryotic systems has remained an elusive and unpredictable goal due to a variety of factors, including, inter alia, the host cells used, the expression control sequences (including the S-D sequence) used, and the characteristics of the gene and protein being expressed. See, e.g., Stenstrom, et al., Gene 273(2):259-265 (2001); Komarova, et al., Bioorg. Khim. 27(4)282-290 (2001); Stenstrom, et al., Gene 263(1-2):273-284 (2001); and Mironova, et al., Microbiol. Res. 154(1):35-41 (1999). For example, efficient expression of soluble B. anthracis protective antigen (PA) has proved difficult in E. coli. See, e.g., Sharma, et al. Protein Expression and Purification 7:33-38 (1996) (indicating 0.5mg/L at 70% purity); Chauhan, et al. Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.; 283(2):308-15 (2001) (indicating 125 mg/L); Gupta, et al. Protein Expr. Purif. 16(3):369-76 (1999) (indicating 2mg/L).

[0005] Accordingly, there remains a demand in the art for compositions and methods for increasing the efficiency of ribosome binding and translation in prokaryotic systems, thereby resulting in increased efficiency of protein expression. This demand is especially strong for proteins that are difficult to express in existing systems, and for proteins that are desired in large quantity for pharmacological, therapeutic, or industrial use.

Summary of the Invention

[0006] The present invention encompasses novel Shine-Dalgarno sequences that result in increased efficiency of protein expression in prokaryotic systems. The present invention further relates to vectors comprising such S-D sequences and host cells transformed with such vectors. In particular embodiments, the present invention relates to methods for producing proteins and fragments thereof in prokaryotic systems using such S-D sequences, vectors, and host cells. In certain embodiments, methods of use of the S-

D sequences, vectors, and host cells of the invention provide high efficiency production of soluble protein in prokaryotic systems, including prokaryotic *in vitro* translation systems.

[0007] In particular embodiments of the invention, the novel S-D sequence comprises (or alternately consists of) SEQ ID NO:2. In additional embodiments, the novel S-D sequence comprises (or alternately consists of) nucleotides 4-13 of SEQ ID NO:2. The invention also encompasses the S-D sequence of SEQ ID NO:18, described at paragraph 0426 of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/368,548, filed April 1, 2002, and in U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/331,478, filed November 16, 2001, each of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

The protein or fragment thereof may be of prokaryotic, eukaryotic, or viral origin, or may be artificial. In particular embodiments, the S-D sequences, vectors, and host cells of the invention are used to express *B. anthracis* protective antigen (PA), mutated protective antigens (mPAs) (*See, e.g.*, Sellman et al, JBC 276(11):8371-8376 (2001)), TL3, TL6, or other proteins. In certain embodiments, the S-D sequences, vectors, and host cells of the invention are used to express proteins that have previously been difficult to express in prokaryotic systems. The present invention also encompasses the combination of novel S-D sequences with a variety of expression control sequences, such as those described in detail in U.S. Patent No. 6,194,168 (which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety), and in particular, expression control sequences comprising at least a portion of one or more lac operator sequences and a phage promoter comprising a -30 region.

Brief Description of the Drawings

[0009] Figure 1 depicts a Shine-Dalgarno sequence of the present invention (SEQ ID NO: 2) and the Shine-Dalgarno sequence contained in the pHE4 expression vector (SEQ ID NO:17) (See U.S. Patent No. 6,194,168). Bases matching the S-D sequence of the present invention (SEQ ID NO:2) are highlighted.

[0010] Figure 2A depicts a map of the pHE6 vector (SEQ ID NO:1), which incorporates a S-D sequence of the invention. Figure 2B depicts the pHE6 vector (SEQ ID NO:1) with the gene encoding mature *Bacillus anthracis* PA including an ETB signal sequence (SEQ ID NO:3) inserted.

[0011] Figures 3A-3B compare the efficiency of TL6 protein expression using the pHE4 vector (Figure 3B) versus the pHE6 vector (Figure 3A), which uses a S-D sequence of the invention. In particular, increased soluble TL6 expression with the pHE6 vector can be seen in Figure 3A as a lack of "shadow" in the gel.

[0012] Figure 4 depicts a gel showing the quantity and quality of PA after expression using pHE6 and subsequent purification. Using the compositions and methods of the invention, approximately 150 mg/L of soluble PA at greater than 96% purity (as measured by RP-HPLC) was obtained.

Detailed Description of the Invention

[0013] The instant invention is directed to novel Shine-Dalgarno (ribosomal binding site) sequences. These S-D sequences result in increased efficiency of protein expression in prokaryotic systems. The S-D sequences of the present invention have been optimized through modification of several nucleotides. *See, e.g.*, Figure 1. In particular embodiments, the S-D sequences of the present invention comprise (or alternately consist of) SEQ ID NO:2. In additional embodiments, the S-D sequences of the present invention comprise (or alternately consist of) nucleotides 4-13 of SEQ ID NO:2. In other embodiments, the S-D sequences of the present invention comprise (or alternately consist of) SEQ ID NO:18.

[0010] In many embodiments, the S-D sequences of the present invention are used in prokaryotic cells. Exemplary bacterial cells suitable for use with the instant invention include *E. coli*, *B. subtilis*, *S. aureus*, *S. typhimurium*, and other bacteria used in the art. In other embodiments, the S-D sequences of the present invention are used in prokaryotic *in vitro* transcription systems.

[0011] The present invention also relates to vectors and plasmids comprising one or more S-D sequences of the invention. Such vectors and plasmids generally also further comprise one or more restriction enzyme sites downstream of the S-D sequence for cloning and expression of a gene or polynucleotide of interest.

[0012] In certain embodiments, vectors and plasmids of the present invention further comprise additional expression control sequences, including but not limited to those described in U.S. Patent No. 6,194,168, and in particular, M (SEQ ID NO:5), M+D (SEQ

ID NO:6), U + D (SEQ ID NO:7), M + D1 (SEQ ID NO:8), and M + D2 (SEQ ID NO:9). More generally, the expression control sequence elements contemplated include bacterial or phage promoter sequences and functional variants thereof, whether natural or artificial; operator/repressor systems; and the lacIq gene (which confers tight regulation of the lac operator by blocking transcription of down-stream (i.e., 3') sequences).

The lac operator sequences contemplated for use in vectors and plasmids of [0013] the instant invention comprise (or alternately consist of) the entire lac operator sequence represented by the sequence 5' AATTGTGAGCGGATAACAATTTCACACA 3' (SEQ ID NO:10), or a portion thereof that retains at least partial activity, as described in U.S. Patent No. 6,194,168. Activity is routinely determined using techniques well known in the art to measure the relative repressability of a promoter sequence in the absence of an inducer, such as IPTG. This is done by comparing the relative amounts of protein expressed from expression control sequences comprising portions of the lac operator sequence and fulllength lac operator sequence. The partial operator sequence is measured relative to the full-length lac operator sequence (e.g., SEQ ID NO:10). In one embodiment, partial activity for the purposes of the present invention means activity reduced by no more than 100 fold relative to the full-length sequence. In alternative embodiments, partial activity for the purpose of the present invention means activity reduced by no more than 75, 50, 25, 20, 15, and 10 fold, relative to the full-length lac operator sequence. In a preferred embodiment, the activity of a partial operator sequence is reduced by no more than 10 fold relative to the activity of the full-length sequence.

[0014] In many embodiments, one or more S-D sequences of the invention are used in a vector comprising a T5 phage promoter sequence and two lac operator sequences wherein at least a portion of the full-length lac operator sequence (SEQ ID NO:10) is located within the spacer region between -12 and -30 of the expression control sequences described in U.S. Patent No. 6,194,168. In particular embodiments, the operator sequence comprises (or alternately consists of) at least the sequence 5'-GTGAGCGGATAACAAT-3' (SEQ ID NO:11).

[0015] The previously mentioned lac-operator sequences are negatively regulated by the lac-repressor. The corresponding repressor gene can be introduced into the host cell in a vector or through integration into the chromosome of a bacterium by known methods, such as by integration of the lacIq gene. See, e.g., Miller et al, supra; Calos, (1978) Nature

274:762-765. The vector encoding the repressor molecule may be the same vector that contains the expression control sequences and a gene or polynucleotide of interest or may be a separate vector.

The S-D sequences of the invention can routinely be inserted using procedures [0016] known in the art into any suitable expression vector that can replicate in gram-negative and/or gram-positive bacteria. See, e.g., Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual (Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. 2nd ed. 1989); Ausubel et al., Current Protocols in Molecular Biology (Green Pub. Assoc. and Wiley Intersciences, N.Y.). Suitable vectors and plasmids can be constructed from segments of chromosomal, nonchromosomal and synthetic DNA sequences, such as various known plasmid and phage DNAs. See, e.g., Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual (Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. 2nd ed. 1989). Especially suitable vectors include plasmids of the pDS family. See Bujard et al, (1987) Methods in Enzymology, 155:416-4333. Additional examples of preferred suitable plasmids include pBR322 and pBluescript (Stratagene, La Jolla, Calif.) based plasmids. Still additional examples of preferred suitable plasmids include pUC-based vectors, including pUC18 and pUC19 (New England Biolabs, Beverly, Mass.) and pREP4 (Qiagen Inc., Chatsworth, Calif.). Portions of vectors and plasmids encoding desired functions may also be combined to form new vectors with desired characteristics. For example, the origin of replication of pUC19 may be recombined with the kanamycin resistance gene of pREP4 to create a new vector with both desired characteristics.

[0017] Preferably, vectors and plasmids comprising one or more S-D sequences of the invention also contain sequences that allow replication of the plasmid to high copy number in the host bacterium of choice. Additionally, vector or plasmid embodiments of the invention that comprise expression control sequences may further comprise a multiple cloning site immediately downstream of the expression control sequences and the S-D sequence.

[0018] Vectors and plasmids comprising one or more S-D sequences of the invention may further comprise genes conferring antibiotic resistance. Preferred genes are those conferring resistance to ampicillin, chloramphenicol, and tetracycline. Especially preferred genes are those conferring resistance to kanamycin.

[0019] The optimized S-D ribosomal binding site of the invention can also be inserted into the chromosome of gram-negative and gram-positive bacterial cells using techniques known in the art. In this case, selection agents such as antibiotics, which are generally required when working with vectors, can be dispensed with.

[0020] Proteins of interest that can be expressed using the S-D sequences, vectors, and host cells of the invention include prokaryotic, eukaryotic, viral, or artificial proteins. Such proteins include, but are not limited to: enzymes; hormones; proteins having immunoregulatory, antiviral or antitumor activity; antibodies and fragments thereof (e.g., Fab, F(ab), F(ab)₂, single-chain Fv, disulfide-linked Fv); or antigens. In preferred embodiments, the protein to be expressed is *B. anthracis* protective antigen (PA), mutated protective antigens (mPAs) (See, e.g., Sellman et al, JBC 276(11):8371-8376 (2001)), TL3, or TL6. Any effective signal sequence may be used in combination with the gene or polynucleotide of interest. In a preferred embodiment, the ETB signal sequence is used to enhance the expression of soluble protein.

[0021] The S-D sequences of the present invention provide for increased efficiency of protein expression in prokaryotic systems. Efficient expression means that the level of protein expression to be expected when using the S-D sequences of the instant invention is generally higher than levels previously reported in the art. In preferred embodiments, the resultant expressed protein can be highly purified to levels greater than 90% purity by RF-HPLC. Particularly preferred purity levels include 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, and near 100% purity, all of which are encompassed by the instant invention. It is expressly contemplated by the invention that the addition of one or more S-D sequences of the invention into any prokaryotic-based expression system, including and in addition to *E. coli* expression systems, will result in increased and more efficient protein expression.

[0022] The present invention also relates to methods of using the S-D sequences, vectors, plasmids, and host cells of the invention to produce proteins and fragments thereof. In one embodiment of the invention, a desired protein is produced by a method comprising:

- (a) transforming a bacterium with a vector in which a polynucleotide encoding a desired protein is operably linked to a S-D sequence of the invention;
 - (b) culturing the transformed bacterium under suitable growth conditions; and

- (c) isolating the desired protein from the culture.
- [0023] In another embodiment of the invention, a desired protein is produced by a method comprising:
- (a) inserting a S-D sequence of the invention and an expression control sequence into the chromosome of a suitable bacterium, wherein the S-D sequence and expression control sequence are each operably linked to a polynucleotide encoding a desired protein;
 - (b) cultivating the bacterium under suitable growth conditions; and
 - (c) isolating the desired protein from the culture.
- [0024] The selection of a suitable host organism is determined by various factors that are well known in the art. Factors to be considered include, for example, compatibility with the selected vector, toxicity of the expression product, expression characteristics, necessary biological safety precautions and costs.
- [0025] Suitable host organisms include, but are not limited to, gram-negative and gram-positive bacteria, such as *E. coli*, *B. subtilis*, *S. aureus*, and *S. typhimurium* strains. Preferred *E. coli* strains include DH5α (Gibco-BRL, Gaithersburg, Md.), XL-1 Blue (Stratagene), and W3110 (ATCC No. 27325). Other *E. coli* strains that can be used according to the present invention include other generally available strains such as *E. coli* 294 (ATCC No. 31446), *E. coli* RR1 (ATCC No. 31343) and M15.

Examples

[0026] The examples which follow are set forth to aid in understanding the invention but are not intended to, and should not be construed to, limit the scope of the invention in any way. The examples do not include detailed descriptions for conventional methods employed in the art, such as for the construction of vectors, the insertion of genes encoding polypeptides of interest into such vectors, or the introduction of the resulting plasmids into bacterial hosts. Such methods are described in numerous publications and can be carried out using recombinant DNA technology methods which are well known in the art. See, e.g., Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual (Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. 2nd ed. 1989); Ausubel et al., Current Protocols in Molecular Biology (Green Pub. Assoc. and Wiley Intersciences, N.Y.).

Example 1: pHE6 Design

[0027] The S-D sequence used in pHE6 (SEQ ID NO:2) was based on the S-D sequence of the pHE4 expression vector (SEQ ID NO:17) (See U.S. Patent No. 6,194,168), with three base pair changes made as indicated in Figure 1. Additionally, the pHE6 plasmid encodes the aminoglycoside phosphotransferase protein (conferring kanamycin resistance), the lacIq repressor, and includes a ColE1 replicon. Construction of the pHE4 plasmid upon which the pHE6 plasmid is based is described in U.S. Patent No. 6,194,168.

Example 2: Method of Making and Purifying PA in Escherichia coli K-12

[0028] Using the following method, a post-purification final yield of soluble PA greater than 2g from 1kg of *E. coli* cell paste (approximately 150 mg/L) can be obtained from either shake flasks or bioreactors. *See* Figure 4. The purity of such soluble PA, as judged by RP-HPLC analysis, is greater than 96-98%.

[0029] The bacterial host strain used for the production of recombinant wild-type PA from a recombinant plasmid DNA molecule is an *E. coli* K-12 derived strain. To express protein from the expression vectors, *E. coli* cells were transformed with the expression vectors and grown overnight (O/N) at 30°C in 4L shaker flasks containing 1L Luria broth medium supplemented with kanamycin. The cultures were started at optical density 600λ (O.D.⁶⁰⁰) of 0.1. IPTG was added to a final concentration of 1mM when the culture reached an O.D.⁶⁰⁰ of between 0.4 and 0.6. IPTG induced cultures were grown for an additional 3 hours. Cells were then harvested using methods known in the art, and the level of protein was detected using Western blot analysis. Soluble PA was then extracted from the periplasm and clarified by conventional means. The clarified supernatant was then purified using a Q Sepharose HP column (Amersham), concentrated, and further purified using a Biogel Hydroxyapatite HP column (BioRAD). Using the expression control sequence M+D1 (SEQ ID NO:8), high levels of repression in the absence of IPTG, and high levels of induced expression in the presence of IPTG were obtained.

Deposit of Microorganisms

[0030] Plasmid pHE6 was deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, Va. 20110-2209 on June 20, 2002 and was given Accession No. PTA-4474. This culture has been accepted for deposit under the provisions of the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Proceedings.

[0031] The disclosures of all publications (including patents, patent applications, journal articles, laboratory manuals, books, or other documents) cited herein are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

[0032] The present invention is not to be limited in scope by the specific embodiments described herein, which are intended as illustrations of individual aspects of the invention. Functionally equivalent methods and components are within the scope of the invention, in addition to those shown and described herein and will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the foregoing description and accompanying drawings. Such modifications are intended to fall within the scope of the appended claims.

OR OTHER BIO	INDICATIONS RELATING TO A DEPOSITED MICROORGANISM OR OTHER BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL (PCT Rule 13bis)											
A. The indications made below relate to the deposited micro description on Page 10, paragraph 30.	organism or other biological material referred to in the											
B. IDENTIFICATION OF DEPOSIT	Further deposits are identified on an additional sheet											
Name of depositary institution: American Type Co	ulture Collection											
Address of depositary institution (including postal 10801 University Boulevard Manassas, Virginia 20110-2209 United States of America	Manassas, Virginia 20110-2209											
Date of deposit	Accession Number											
June 20, 2002 PTA-4474												
C. ADDITIONAL INDICATIONS (leave blank if not applied	This information is continued on an additional sheet											
D. DESIGNATED STATES FOR WHICH INDICATIO	NS ARE MADE (if the indications are not for all designated States)											
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E. SEPARATE FURNISHING OF INDICATIONS (leave	blank if not applicable)											
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ATCC Deposit No. PTA-4474

CANADA

The applicant requests that, until either a Canadian patent has been issued on the basis of an application or the application has been refused, or is abandoned and no longer subject to reinstatement, or is withdrawn, the Commissioner of Patents only authorizes the furnishing of a sample of the deposited biological material referred to in the application to an independent expert nominated by the Commissioner, the applicant must, by a written statement, inform the International Bureau accordingly before completion of technical preparations for publication of the international application.

NORWAY

The applicant hereby requests that the application has been laid open to public inspection (by the Norwegian Patent Office), or has been finally decided upon by the Norwegian Patent Office without having been laid open inspection, the furnishing of a sample shall only be effected to an expert in the art. The request to this effect shall be filed by the applicant with the Norwegian Patent Office not later than at the time when the application is made available to the public under Sections 22 and 33(3) of the Norwegian Patents Act. If such a request has been filed by the applicant, any request made by a third party for the furnishing of a sample shall indicate the expert to be used. That expert may be any person entered on the list of recognized experts drawn up by the Norwegian Patent Office or any person approved by the applicant in the individual case.

AUSTRALIA

The applicant hereby gives notice that the furnishing of a sample of a microorganism shall only be effected prior to the grant of a patent, or prior to the lapsing, refusal or withdrawal of the application, to a person who is a skilled addressee without an interest in the invention (Regulation 3.25(3) of the Australian Patents Regulations).

FINLAND

The applicant hereby requests that, until the application has been laid open to public inspection (by the National Board of Patents and Regulations), or has been finally decided upon by the National Board of Patents and Registration without having been laid open to public inspection, the furnishing of a sample shall only be effected to an expert in the art.

ATCC Deposit No.: PTA-4474

UNITED KINGDOM

The applicant hereby requests that the furnishing of a sample of a microorganism shall only be made available to an expert. The request to this effect must be filed by the applicant with the International Bureau before the completion of the technical preparations for the international publication of the application.

DENMARK

The applicant hereby requests that, until the application has been laid open to public inspection (by the Danish Patent Office), or has been finally decided upon by the Danish Patent office without having been laid open to public inspection, the furnishing of a sample shall only be effected to an expert in the art. The request to this effect shall be filed by the applicant with the Danish Patent Office not later that at the time when the application is made available to the public under Sections 22 and 33(3) of the Danish Patents Act. If such a request has been filed by the applicant, any request made by a third party for the furnishing of a sample shall indicate the expert to be used. That expert may be any person entered on a list of recognized experts drawn up by the Danish Patent Office or any person by the applicant in the individual case.

SWEDEN

The applicant hereby requests that, until the application has been laid open to public inspection (by the Swedish Patent Office), or has been finally decided upon by the Swedish Patent Office without having been laid open to public inspection, the furnishing of a sample shall only be effected to an expert in the art. The request to this effect shall be filed by the applicant with the International Bureau before the expiration of 16 months from the priority date (preferably on the Form PCT/RO/134 reproduced in annex Z of Volume I of the PCT Applicant's Guide). If such a request has been filed by the applicant any request made by a third party for the furnishing of a sample shall indicate the expert to be used. That expert may be any person entered on a list of recognized experts drawn up by the Swedish Patent Office or any person approved by a applicant in the individual case.

NETHERLANDS

The applicant hereby requests that until the date of a grant of a Netherlands patent or until the date on which the application is refused or withdrawn or lapsed, the microorganism shall be made available as provided in the 31F(1) of the Patent Rules only by the issue of a sample to an expert. The request to this effect must be furnished by the applicant with the Netherlands Industrial Property Office before the date on which the application is made available to the public under Section 22C or Section 25 of the Patents Act of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, whichever of the two dates occurs earlier.

What is Claimed Is:

1. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a Shine-Dalgarno sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) polynucleotides 4-13 of SEO ID NO:2: and
- (c) SEQ ID NO:18.
- 2. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein the Shine-Dalgarno sequence is (a).
- 3. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein the Shine-Dalgarno sequence is (b).
- 4. The isolated polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein the Shine-Dalgarno sequence is (c).
- 5. A vector comprising a Shine-Dalgarno sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) polynucleotides 4-13 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
 - (c) SEQ ID NO:18.
 - 6. The vector of claim 5 wherein the Shine-Dalgarno sequence is (a).
 - 7. The vector of claim 5 wherein the Shine-Dalgarno sequence is (b).
 - 8. The vector of claim 5 wherein the Shine-Dalgarno sequence is (c).
- 9. The vector of claim 5, wherein said Shine-Dalgarno sequence is operably associated with a polynucleotide encoding a protein or fragment thereof.
 - 10. The vector of claim 9, wherein said polynucleotide encodes SEO ID NO:4.
- 11. The vector of claim 9, wherein said polynucleotide is operably associated with an expression control sequence.

12. A method of producing a vector comprising inserting the Shine-Dalgarno sequence of claim 1 into a vector.

- 13. A method of producing a host cell comprising transducing, transforming or transfecting a host cell with the vector of claim 5.
- 14. A recombinant host cell comprising the Shine-Dalgarno sequence of claim 1.
 - 15. A recombinant host cell comprising the vector of claim 5.
 - 16. A recombinant host cell comprising the vector of claim 9.
 - 17. A method of producing a protein, comprising:
- (a) culturing the host cell of claim 16 under conditions suitable to produce the protein or fragment thereof; and
 - (b) recovering the protein or fragment thereof from the cell culture.
- 18. The method of claim 17, wherein said polynucleotide encodes SEQ ID NO:4.

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Shine Dalgarno Sequences

SEQ ID NO:2 ATTATAAAGGAAAATTA
SEQ ID NO:17 ATTAAAGGAAAAATTA

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pHE6 Vector Map No Insert

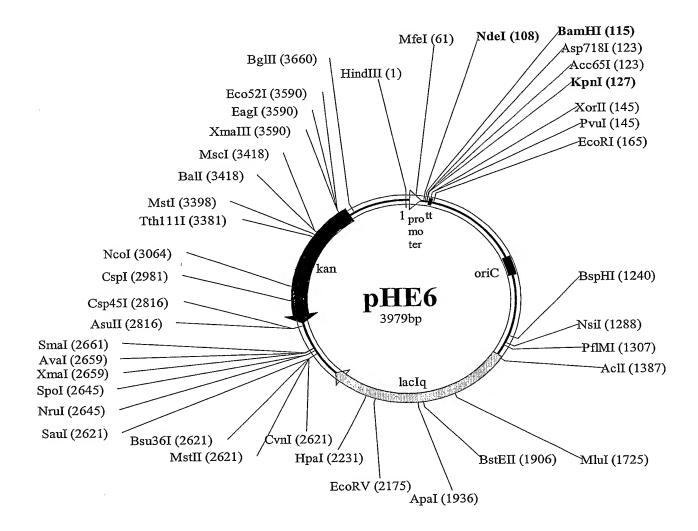


FIG. 2A

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pHE6 Vector Map With wtPA Insert

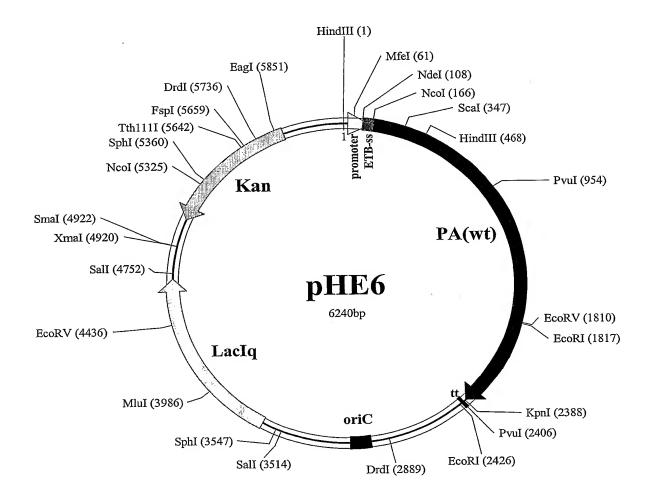


FIG. 2B

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STII-TL6 in pHE6

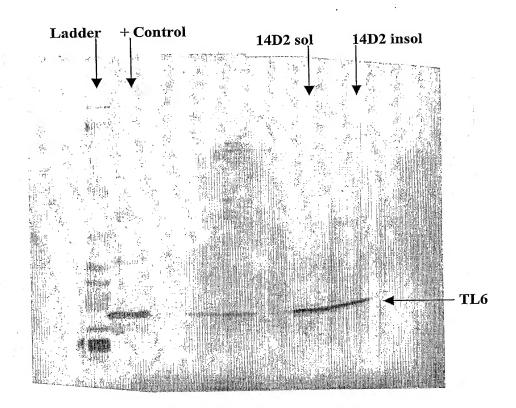


FIG. 3A

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STII-TL6 in pHE4

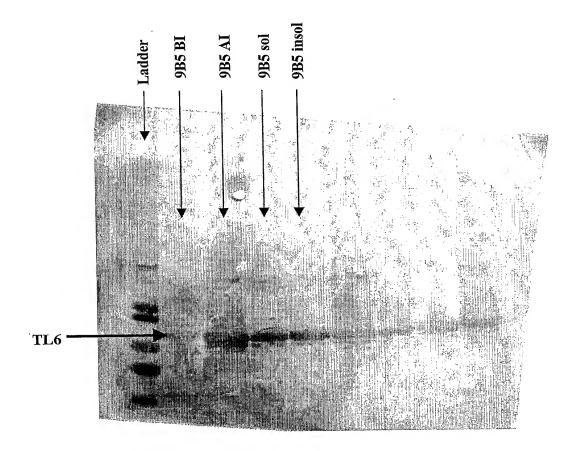


FIG. 3B

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Purified PA Expressed Using pHE6

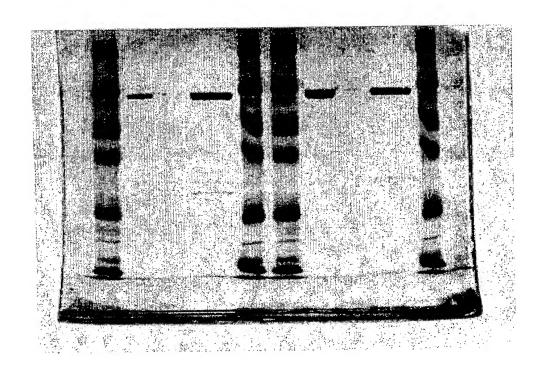


FIG. 4

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			ctg Leu													156
			gta Val 35													204
			gag Glu													252
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			gat Asp													636
			gac Asp 195													684
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	aac ctg gtt Asn Leu Val 500					1596
	gaa acc act Glu Thr Thr 515		o Met Thr		ı Ala Leu	1644
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	atc acc gaa Ile Thr Glu					1740
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170

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9

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635

630

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Gly Lys Gln Ser Leu Leu Ile Gly Val Ala Thr Ser Ser Leu Ala Leu 20 25 30

His Ala Pro Ser Gln Ile Val Ala Ala Ile Lys Ser Arg Ala Asp Gln 35 40 45

Leu Gly Ala Ser Val Val Ser Met Val Glu Arg Ser Gly Val Glu 50 55 60

Ala Cys Lys Ala Ala Val His Asn Leu Leu Ala Gln Arg Val Ser Gly 65 70 75 . 80

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<212> PRT

<213> Artificial sequence

<220>

<223> LacIq repressor gene sequence

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Tyr Ile Pro Pro Leu Thr Thr Ile Lys Gln Asp Phe Arg Leu Leu Gly 245 250 255

Gln Thr Ser Val Asp Arg Leu Leu Gln Leu Ser Gln Gly Gln Ala Val 260 265 270

Lys Gly Asn Gln Leu Leu Pro Val Ser Leu Val Lys Arg Lys Thr Thr 275 280 285

Leu Ala Pro Asn Thr Gln Thr Ala Ser Pro Arg Ala Leu Ala Asp Ser 290 295 300

21

Leu Met Gln Leu Ala Arg Gln Val Ser Arg Leu Glu Ser Gly Gln 305 315

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<223> Kanamycin resistance gene sequence

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Glu Arg Leu Phe Gly Tyr Asp Trp Ala Gln Gln Thr Ile Gly Cys Ser

Asp Ala Ala Val Phe Arg Leu Ser Ala Gln Gly Arg Pro Val Leu Phe

Val Lys Thr Asp Leu Ser Gly Ala Leu Asn Glu Leu Gln Asp Glu Ala 55 50

Ala Arg Leu Ser Trp Leu Ala Thr Thr Gly Val Pro Cys Ala Ala Val 70

Leu Asp Val Val Thr Glu Ala Gly Arg Asp Trp Leu Leu Leu Gly Glu

Val Pro Gly Gln Asp Leu Leu Ser Ser His Leu Ala Pro Ala Glu Lys 100 105

Val Ser Ile Met Ala Asp Ala Met Arg Arg Leu His Thr Leu Asp Pro 115 120

Ala Thr Cys Pro Phe Asp His Gln Ala Lys His Arg Ile Glu Arg Ala 135

Arg Thr Arg Met Glu Ala Gly Leu Val Asp Gln Asp Asp Leu Asp Glu 150 155

Glu His Gln Gly Leu Ala Pro Ala Glu Leu Phe Ala Arg Leu Lys Ala

Arg Met Pro Asp Gly Glu Asp Leu Val Val Thr His Gly Asp Ala Cys

Leu Pro Asn Ile Met Val Glu Asn Gly Arg Phe Ser Gly Phe Ile Asp 195 200

Cys Gly Arg Leu Gly Val Ala Asp Arg Tyr Gln Asp Ile Ala Leu Ala 215 210 Thr Arg Asp Ile Ala Glu Glú Leu Gly Gly Glu Trp Ala Asp Arg Phe 225 230 Leu Val Leu Tyr Gly Ile Ala Ala Pro Asp Ser Gln Arg Ile Ala Phe 250 Tyr Arg Leu Leu Asp Glu Phe Phe 260 <210> 17 <211> 18 <212> DNA <213> Artificial sequence <220> <223> pHE4 Shine-Dalgarno sequence <400> 17 18 attaaagagg agaaatta <210> 18 <211> 12 <212> DNA <213> Artificial sequence <220> <223> Shine Dalgarno sequence based on phoA promoter <400> 18 12 gtaaaggaag ta